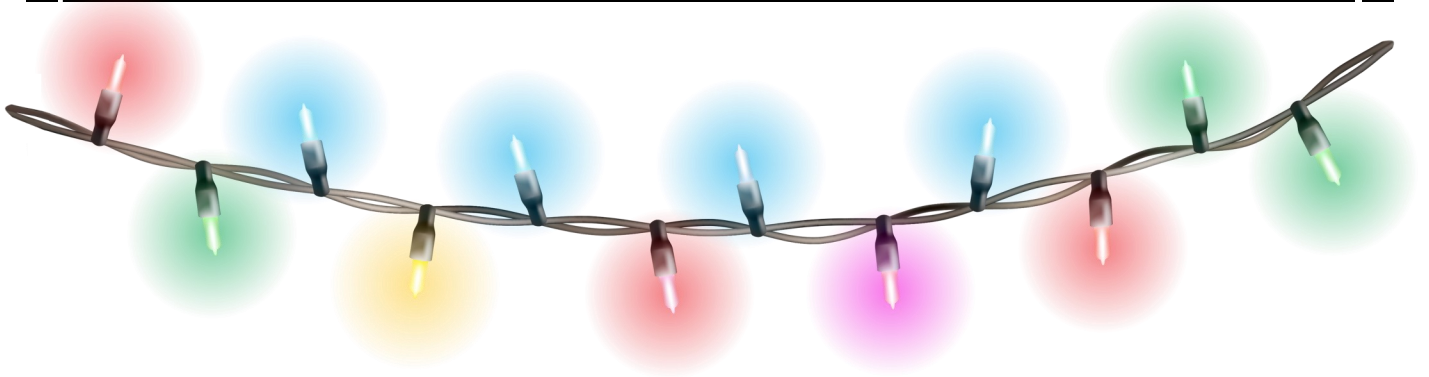


# **The Friendly Communicator**

## **December 2022**



Web site: [www.firstbaptistwestallis.org/communicator.html](http://www.firstbaptistwestallis.org/communicator.html)  
E-mail: [firstbaptistwestallis@gmail.com](mailto:firstbaptistwestallis@gmail.com)

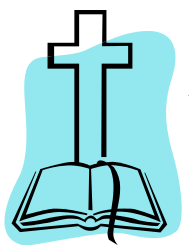
First Baptist Church of West Allis  
1576 So. 78th Street  
West Allis, WI 53214

**The Friendly Communicator**

# The Friendly Communicator



**December 2022**



## *From the Pastor's Desk...*

As we enter into the season of Advent--it's a pregnant time for the church--a time to anticipate our celebration of the birth of Jesus once again. So we  
WAIT WAIT WAIT.

In the meantime--How do you wait? Are you silent, busy, shopping, etc.?

Your response says something about who you are. It could be a time to discard the old stuff, to clear away a new space for the baby Jesus in your heart, and to create something sparkly that would bring a smile to the baby Jesus.

What faith resources have you stored up in your heart to support you during this waiting time, i.e., patience, faith, hope forgiveness, love?

What tools do you have? Do you have trash bags to discard old grudges and grievances?

Do you have a broom to sweep away the old cobwebs and routines?

Do you have a tool chest to build/create something new?

What an exciting time to become a new person in Christ when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ on December 25, 2022.

We all can arrive at the manger and present ourselves as a gift to the baby Jesus. Just imagine a "new you", joyful, happy, delighted, inspired, and committed to walk with, to talk with, and to follow our Savior Jesus Christ all the way to the END.

*Pastor Gwen*

# The Friendly Communicator

## December 2022



### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11	Mark Weisser
22	Eric Holcomb
22	Mason Smith
24	Eric Winski
28	Charles Winski
28	Trish Sauer
29	Alex Holcomb
30	Ben Byleen

### ANNIVERSARIES

5 Glenn & Adell Kupka 40 years

*If we have inadvertently missed your special day, please accept our apologies, and let the office know so we can change our records.*

The **Communion Offering** for the month of December is designated for the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering.

Third Sunday (December 18th) suggested non-perishable food item is Beans/dry or canned and the hygiene item is Shampoo/Conditioner.

### **ABMen's Breakfast**

All men and boys are invited to a hearty breakfast in Fellowship Hall, 7:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 11. After breakfast, officers for 2023 will be elected and a calendar of events for the new year will be discussed.

### **ABWomen's Ministries**

All women and girls are invited to a luncheon at noon on Sunday, December 11. ABWomen's Ministries thanks everyone who helped make the Holiday Bazaar a great success--approximately \$3,000 was raised in support of local, national, and international mission projects.

FBCWA will be providing the meal for St. Ben's on December 29th. A sign up sheet is posted on the Education Wing foyer bulletin board.



**2022 Annual Reports** are due December 31st. Please submit them to the church office.

# The Friendly Communicator

## December 2022

### October 2022 Financial Income Report

#### General Receipts

Envelopes	\$ 8,833.00
Loose Offerings	88.00
Church School	232.64
Thanksgiving	50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,203.64</b>

#### Miscellaneous Receipts

Secret Place	\$ 2.00
Postage	1.16
Stained Glass Restoration	100.00
Pow Wow	50.00
Church Doors	25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 178.16</b>

#### Communion Offering

Grand Avenue Club	\$ 125.00
Salvation Army	70.00
Milwaukee Christian Center	130.00
Kodiak Mission	5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 330.00</b>

#### Memorial Fund

Carol Kosobucki	\$ 50.00
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#### Mission Offering

World Mission Offering	\$ 795.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	50.00
Love Gift	30.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 875.00</b>

**Deposited Total           \$ 10,636.80**

### Sunday School Christmas Play

The Sunday School children and youth will perform "The Sky over Bethlehem" from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 18 in the church sanctuary. The congregation will be part of the pageant too, by joining in the singing of several favorite Christmas carols. Plan to support our children and youth by arriving promptly at 9:30 a.m. on December 18.



### Christmas Eve Service

Make our traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service an important part of your celebration of Christ's birth. Invite your family and friends to attend with you. 7:00 p.m., Saturday, December 24 in the church sanctuary.



# The Friendly Communicator

## December 2022



### Musical Notes FROM THE DIREKTR



We are often asked to serve in our church in some way – sing in the choir, ring handbells, read scripture, take care of the technology. These can be scary things and sometimes, we think that we aren't equipped to do it or talented enough. Well, read on!

Isaac was blind

Genesis 27:1

Jacob walked with a limp

Genesis 32:31

David was too young

1 Samuel 17:33

Moses stuttered

Exodus 4:10

Chushim was hard of hearing

Genesis 46:23

Samson had a limp

Judges 13

Ehud had a shriveled hand

Judges 3:15

Mephibosheth had crippled legs

Samuel 4:4

God calls all of us to serve despite our hesitations or our imaginary limitations. God is calling you to serve!

*Mary Schecher*



# The Friendly Communicator

## December 2022

### Historical Reflections: Service of Installation

The records from the Milwaukee Baptist Church and then Greenfield Baptist Church do not have any mention of installation of new pastors, "laying of hands", or other type of ceremony. They were on the US frontier. Mostly farmers, they were just happy to have a pastor.

In the early days, there are entries of approval to send requests to the national missionary board for supplying a preacher and even funds. Other entries mentioned approval of a shared preacher to speak every fourth Sunday for \$50 a year.

The bottom line is we do not know when our initial "installation ceremony" was conducted.

We do know that a "SERVICE OF INSTALLATION" was conducted for Rev. Mark Weisser over thirty years ago on September 20, 1992. Participants as listed on the program were: Rev Eleanor Cardenas, Rev George Daniels, David Fellows, Kenneth Gleesing, John Gregg, Rev Scott Weisser, Joyce Radtke, Ted Hertel, Sr., Mary Schecher, Karl Byleen, Henry Canitz, and Ted Hertel, Jr. Unfortunately -- and oddly enough! -- no photographs of that service appear to have been taken.



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
1576 South 78th Street  
West Allis WI 53214-4643

**SERVICE OF INSTALLATION**  
Reverend Mark R. Weisser

September 20, 1992



On November 5, 2022, we gathered together for a "Service of Installation" of Rev. Gwendolyn Y. Young. Participants as listed on the program were: the ABCW Executive Minister Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell,



Associate Regional Minister-- Education Rev. Dr. John Jones IV, FBCWA Search Committee members Dr. Karl Byleen (Chair), Linda Hazard House, and Catherine Wood. Music was provided by Dr. Mary Schecher,



## The Friendly Communicator December 2022



Praise Team members Barbara Winski and Susan Moreno, Raymond Roberts, and the Milwaukee Myanmar Christian Church Youth choir. Additionally, greetings and welcome were brought by representatives of West Allis area churches. The Installation Sermon was given by Rev. Gail Doerings, Transitional Executive Leader, Presbytery of South Kansas, Wichita, Kansas.



# The Friendly Communicator

## December 2022



There were also hymns, special music, and, most importantly, Pastor Gwen's covenant to serve the congregation as a minister of Jesus, as well as the congregation's commitment to work together with our new pastor to support her with prayer and participation. Church members were called forward to lay hands on the pastor as a symbol of sharing together with her in the Church's ministry and mission.



Undoubtedly, the laying on of hands in the early church was a means of connecting the message with the messenger, or the spiritual gift with the gifted giver. It provided a symbolic sign authenticating the pastor through whom the physical manifestation of a spiritual gift was

bestowed. There are no magical biblical formulas for the ministry of the church. Laying on of hands has no power in itself. Symbolically, our members laid our hands on Pastor Gwen at the Conclusion of the service as we made our mutual commitments.

Then, after the benediction and following our local Baptist traditions, we



all adjourned to Fellowship Hall for good food and conversation.



*This is the 78<sup>th</sup> of periodic historical articles.*





# The Friendly Communicator

## December 2022

### Historical Reflections: Edwin Duane Barrett

Sunday, August 12th, 1962 - Monday, October 31st, 2022



Eddie passed peacefully on October 31, 2022 surrounded by his loving family.

He is preceded in death by his parents Leslie and Shirley Barrett. He leaves behind his loving and devoted wife Donna and daughter Tina (Joe); grandchildren Jaiden, Sammantha (Jordan), Sondra, Alexa (Chris), Joseph Jr. and Jeremiah; great grand children Alessondro, Samuel, Aleanna, Christiano, Adelaide, Jordan Jr, Luciano, and Xandra; brother Jeff; nephews David and Billy; nieces Brianna (Mike) and Nikki. Further survived by his special sisters in law, Laura and Barb; great nieces and nephews and many great friends especially his best friend of 30 years Tommy (Sue)

and Mike and Debbie. Also survived by Aunt Judy, Uncle Nick, and dear cousins. Loving dog dad to Jamie and Patch.

Ed had a passion for fast cars, wrenching and fishing. Sobriety was very important to him, he was a supportive member of AA for 28 years helping many new friends on their journey.

In lieu of flowers please make memorials in Ed's name to the ALS Association. *[Based on an obituary from the Molthen-Bell Funeral Home web site]*

Ed and Donna actively joined our church in 2011. Ed served as an officer of our Men's Fellowship prior to their moving to Oak Creek.

*This is the 79<sup>th</sup> of periodic reflections.*

